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the binding neat and strong. With such a book in hand, pupils should find the study of the dictionary a fascinating as well as a profitable pastime.

THE SCIENCE OF ENGLISH ETYMOLOGY. By Walter W. Skeat. Oxford and New York: Clarendon Press.

One of the last volumes, if not the very last volume, from the pen of the distinguished Cambridge scholar, the Reverend Walter W. Skeat, this book is a study of comparative etymology considered from the point of view of English. After a discussion of some general principles and useful canons, the book takes up in separate chapters the relations between English and the various Romance, Teutonic, and Indo-Germanic languages, so as to "illustrate some of the ways in which those languages throw light upon each other, and to show how many really valuable lessons can be drawn from considering even a single English word from various points of view." The author makes no claim to originality either in method or material, setting forth "only such things as are vouched for by experts who can be trusted." On account of its clear, simple and scientific statement of principles and its wealth of examples, the book should find a place in advanced courses in linguistics in our colleges and universities.

WHAT CAN LITERATURE DO FOR ME? By C. Alphonso Smith, Poe Professor of English Literature, University of Virginia. New York: Doubleday, Page & Company.

The suggestive question in the above title is answered in six chapters, under the following heads: I. It Can Give You an Outlet; II. It Can Keep Before You the Vision of the Ideal; III. It Can Give You a Better Knowledge of Human Nature; IV. It Can Restore the Past to You; V. It Can Show You the Glory of the Commonplace; VI. It Can Give You the Mastery of Your Own Language. Each chapter is a clear, simple discussion of the principles announced, reënforced by abundant and well-chosen illustrations. The author directs attention first to the reading and study of literature itself, showing that litera-

ture can no more be learned from a history of literature than arithmetic from a history of arithmetic. The book instructs, appeals to the imagination, has a delightful literary flavor, and is full of heart. It reveals the scholar's instinct, the *littérateur's* appreciation and taste, and the teacher's interpretative power. Wonderfully refreshing, stimulating, and suggestive, the little volume will awaken interest in the best literature and prove helpful in the hands of the teacher, the student, and the general reader.

R. H. H.

A HANDBOOK OF NORSE MYTHOLOGY. By Karl Mortensen, University of Copenhagen. Translated by A. Clinton Crowell. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company.

The translation of this work from the Danish into English by Professor Crowell of Brown University brings to the students of Germanic languages and to the general reader a volume of interest and value. After a general introduction, the work is divided into four sections dealing mainly with the Chief Gods and Myths, Forms of Worship and Religious Life, and Hero Sagas. The division of each section into numbered paragraphs with topical headings in bold-faced type, and the illustrations and index add to the attractiveness and usefulness of the volume as a reference book. The chief value of this little book of 208 pages lies in the simple presentation of introductory facts about Norse mythology which should serve to stimulate interest and incite further study of the subject.

R. H. H.

ECCLESIASTICUS. Edited by W. O. E. Oesterley. Cambridge: at the University Press.

This edition of Ecclesiasticus, the latest volume of the Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges, is edited by a well-known biblical student and maintains the high level of scholarship established by the previous publications in the series. The introduction contains a study of the title, authorship, and date; an analysis of the contents and character of the book; an historical sketch of the times; an investigation as to the place and use of